

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 14856 162029Z

12-S
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06

CIAE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-03 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 /118 W
----- 004721

R 161608Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5655
INFO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA
USMISSION NATO
DIA WASHDC
CSAF WASHDC//AFIN//

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 14856

E.O. 11652 XGDS-3
TAGS: PARM, UR, US
SUBJECT: KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON THE B-1

REF: A. MOSCOW 12897 B. MOSCOW 13944 (NOTAL)

1. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON OCTOBER 16 IN A STANDARD FEATURE COLUMN "INTERNATIONAL MILITARY-TECHNICAL REVIEW" CARRIES A DESCRIPTIVE ARTICLE ON THE B-1 ENTITLED "AGAINST THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES". AUTHOR IS RETIRED COLONEL-ENGINEER A. SMOLIN (WHO DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE THE SAME MAN AS V.V. SMOLIN, WHO HAS BEEN ON SOVIET SALT DELEGATIONS). ARTICLE IS LARGELY A TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, BUT ALSO MAKES THE FOLLOWING POINTS.

2. HISTORY OF THE B-1 PROJECT, SMOLIN WRITES, HAS BEEN A CONTROVERSIAL ONE, AND THE DECISION HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE TO GO AHEAD WITH FULL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COST. HE SAYS THAT THE COMMAND STRUCTURE IN THE USAF HAS NEVER-THELESS CALLED THE BOMBER "THE MAIN SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF DEVELOPING FUTURE PILOTED STRATEGIC SYSTEMS". HE ALSO MAKES THE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 14856 162029Z

POINT THAT CONSIDERABLE EFFORT IS BEING DEVOTED TO DEVELOPMENT OF

THE B-1'S PENETRATION CAPABILITY: "SPECIAL HOPES ARE BEING PLACED ON THE B-1'S ABILITY TO CARRY OUT ATTACK RUNS AT SUBSONIC SPEEDS AT VERY LOW ALTITUDES--30 TO 120 METERS. TO THIS END THE AIRCRAFT IS EQUIPPED WITH AN AUTOMATIC TERRAIN-FOLLOWING NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEM. IT IS CONSIDERED THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO TRACK THE AIRCRAFT BY ELECTRONIC ("RADIO-DIRECTION FINDING") METHODS. IN ADDITION, THROUGH SPECIAL MEASURES ITS SO-CALLED ELECTRONIC CROSS-SECTION IS SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED; IN OTHER WORDS, THE TRACKING SIGNAL REFLECTION IS 50 TIMES WEAKER THAN, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT OF A B-52."

3. SMOLIN CONCLUDES HIS ARTICLE BY NOTING THAT THE PENTAGON IS PLANNING ON BEGINNING DEPLOYMENT OF THE B-1 IN 1978, AND BY POSING THE RHETORICAL QUESTION, "DOES IT NEED TO BE SAID THAT SUCH PLANS AIMED AT WHIPPING UP THE ARMS RACE AND FORCING MILITARY PREPARATIONS ARE IN CLEAR CONTRADICTION TO THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES, TO THE HOPES AND DESIRES TO THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD?".

4. COMMENT. WITH THIS ARTICLE KRSNAYA ZVEZDA CONTINUES ITS COMMENTARIES ON ISSUES OF CURRENT INTEREST IN THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS (SEE REFS A AND B FOR REPORTS ON SIMILAR ARTICLES ON CRUISE MISSILES). UNLIKE THE ARTICLES REPORTED REF A, HOWEVER, THERE ARE NO CLEAR REFERENCES TO THE NEGOTIATIONS OR TO THE TERMS OF SALT I--PERHAPS REFLECTING THE FACT THAT INCLUSION OF THE B-1 IN SALT II CEILINGS IS NOT A MATTER OF CONTROVERSY. IT NEVERTHELESS DOES SEEM TO DWELL IN DETAIL ON THE AIRCRAFT'S PENETRATION CAPABILITY--AN ASPECT OF THE CRUISE MISSILE ALSO STRESSED IN THE ARTICLE REPORTED REF B.

STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MISSILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW14856
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750360-0238
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751047/aaaabpxh.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 12897, 75 MOSCOW 13944
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON THE B-1
TAGS: PARM, SOPN, UR, US, RED STAR, (SHASKOL'SKIY, N)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006